

**Certificate of Need Task Force Meeting
January 3, 2006
Meeting Minutes**

TASK FORCE MEMBERS PRESENT

Representative Barbara Bailey
Norm Charney
Representative Eileen Cody
Dorothy Graham
Steve Hill
Denise Hopkins
Kathy Marshall
Palmer Pollock
Mary Selecky
Jon Smiley
Robby Stern
Janet Varon,
Carolyn Watts, Chair
Rick Woods

TASK FORCE MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Alex Deccio
Senator Pat Thibaudeau

INTERESTED PUBLIC PARTIES

Vicki Austin
Stacy Baker
Gary Bennett
Chris Blake
James Curry
Bart Eggen
Cynthia Forland
Gail McGaffick (on phone)
Lisa Jeremiah
Robb Menaul
Ellie Menzies
Elana Okrent
Scott Plack
Ree Sailors
Phil Watkins
Jim Villoria (on phone)
David Weber

STAFF PRESENT

Nancy Fisher, MD
Linda Glaeser, RN
Gary Fugere
Pat Maley
Beverly Skinner

Tom Piper, Consultant
Bruce Spector, Consultant

Topic	Discussion/Decision	Follow-up
Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agenda review• Review of minutes• Housekeeping	Introductions were made by the Task Force members, project staff, consultants, and interested parties. Approval of the minutes as written was moved and seconded.	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announcements 	No new announcements made at this time.	
Group Values Results Discussion	Linda shared the results of the Group Values exercise. She summarized the Task Force results and noted the differences in view points between the TAC and the Task Force. The overall results will assist CON discussions moving forward by being aware of those differences. (handouts provided)	
Governor's Health Care Agenda	Steve Hill brought the Task Force up-to-date on the Governor's Health Care Agenda, highlighting the issue of lack of access for Washington State residents to affordable, quality health care. The problem cannot be solved with more money, as there is no more money and the current spending on health care is unsustainable. (handouts provided)	
Discussion: Elements from Governor's Health Agenda for consideration related to CON recommendations	<p>For 2006 and beyond, the Task Force will look to see how CON can further, and be consistent with, the Governor's Health Care Agenda as it relates to access, quality/efficiency, spending, and prevention.</p> <p>Issues identified for further discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of connectivity between CON approval and licensing. Currently CON has no ability to address access issues. The Task Force should present to the Legislature recommendations on access goals, which relate to facilities. These specific goals would tie to CON approval and the Governor's goals on access. CON would have monitoring ability of these goals/criteria and if the facility fails to be met, there would be consequences. How to address the complicating factor of two hospital systems with different bottom line goals (public and private systems, for profit and non-profit). Should all facilities have some public responsibility, and how will they be held to that? Should the Task Force have a position on that? 	CON staff will provide material to the Task Force regarding the Governor's Health Care Agenda and the over arching issues.
TAC Discussion Report: Recommendations for consideration related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CON purpose and goal CON general review criteria 	<p>Palmer Pollock and Jon Smiley presented the requested purpose and goals statements, and recommendations from the TAC to the Task Force. (handouts provided)</p> <p>Two items that the TAC recognized as vital to a successful CON process and</p>	

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	effective regulation are, first a defined Washington State health care policy and a specific agency where that responsibility would reside, and secondly the need to have a data driven basis for working with CON. These two items are missing and should be addressed and discussed for future planning.	
National Perspective and Experience related to CON – “Key” State Comparisons	<p>The national perspective from other states was given by the consultants Tom Piper and Bruce Spector.</p> <p>Tom highlighted what an effective CON Program is; saying effectiveness is a balance between production of desired results and the capacity of the production assets. CON fundamentally regulates those assets in health care, and should compare that against the desired results.</p> <p>Balance is not necessarily what is had but what should be. The CON balance has been compromised or limited.</p> <p>Bruce described the state of Vermont’s experience in the development of their CON Program, and how CON works in Vermont.</p>	CON staff will include the North Carolina statues on the HCA CON web site.
Discussion: Draft Recommendations related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CON purpose and goal • CON review criteria 	The Task Force came to agreement on the preamble, discussed the recommendations and will work on refining them, with additional discussion at the Task Force conference call on January 25, 2006. After brief discussion, it was confirmed that recommendations will be considered ‘final draft’ until such time a final and complete recommendation package is prepared for submittal.	
Public Comment	No public comment.	
Meeting Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional concerns • Confirm assignments and schedule • Next Meeting • Plus/Delta 	Linda thanked all for the great work and gave a reminder that the January 25 Task Force conference call is an opportunity to formulate additional questions to give to the TAC.	
Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm	